Dr. Judith Eggers Establishes New Scholarship

Dr. Judith Eggers (BSSW 1962, PhD 1982) of Dublin, Ohio, has a history of philanthropy at The College of Social Work. In 2009, Dr. Eggers provided a gift to create and maintain the garden on the east side of Stillman Hall. Dr. Eggers wanted the outside of the home of the College to reflect the vibrancy and growth that is taking place on the inside of the building. The idea for a garden evolved from Dr. Eggers’ sense of the importance of place, space and environment to an individual, which she believes is an important aspect of the essence of social work.

Most recently, Dr. Eggers has established an endowed scholarship in memory of her mother, Professor Emeritus Jeanette McCleery Zupancic (BS 1935, MSW 1948). The two are pictured here together with Dr. Eggers on the right. Professor Zupancic, who died in December 2011, served as the Undergraduate Program Director during her tenure at the college from 1958 – 1977. By establishing The Jeanette Zupancic Scholarship in Child Welfare, Dr. Eggers’ desire is to honor her mother’s commitment to children and the positive impact social workers can make on their lives. Income from this endowment will be used for student support, with preference given to a single mother in the MSW program focusing on child welfare.

The Zupancic Scholarship enhances an already strong program in children and families at the college. Five faculty members make it the focus of their research, teaching, and service, with specializations ranging from youth development programs, school social work, juvenile justice, foster care and adoption, and health and mental health. Tom Gregoire, dean at the College of Social Work, is proud of its focus on children and families and is pleased with the establishment of this student support fund. He says, “Professor Zupancic trained an entire generation of social work practitioners who went on to benefit thousands of vulnerable families and children. Dr. Eggers’ gift honors her mother’s important legacy, and continues the commitment to providing skilled and compassionate social work services for those most in need.”